

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: burdick@interval.com (Wayne Burdick)
Subject: [9366] '40A front panel: no stiffeners needed
Message-ID: <v02130532adda30ca0ba9@[199.170.106.28]>

Allen,

In my opinion, there's no need to add stiffeners. This is a left-over hack from when the original Norcal 40 came out. On that rig, I didn't use custom toggle switches with threaded bushings, and the VFO pot was a very small unit, same as the one used for RIT and RF gain. Also, some of the old PC boards didn't fit snugly against the panel due to slight mis-placement of the controls on the board.

The new Wilderness version uses an RIT switch that has threaded bushings and a very secure 5-point mount to the PC board. This makes the switch, in effect, an angle bracket. In addition, the VFO pot is a large and very sturdy unit with large PCB pins. Between the two, there is absolutely no need to add supplemental stiffening. As for the back panel, the BNC connector and power switch, both functioning as secure angle brackets, provide a solid coupling between panel and PC board.

Finally, once the top cover is in place, the '40A is a rock. Even if you replace the VFO pot with a 10-turn unit that doesn't solder directly to the PC board, I'm confident that you won't need additional stiffening.

Please let me know if you hear otherwise from other '40A builders. If there really is a problem then Bob at Wilderness might consider using the same welded L-brackets found on the new Sierra.

73,
Wayne
N6KR

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: Bill Acito 04-Jun-1996 0923 <acito@asdg.ENET.dec.com>
Subject: [9351] 30M Built-in Propagation Beacons :-)
Message-ID: <9606041322.AA24753@us1rmc.bb.dec.com>

To Chuck et al:

Pulled from my archive (I'm such a pack-rat...)
Thanks to Urs, HB9HAU.

b

To QRP-L de Urs, HB9HAU

My frequency list, dated back to 1992, shows the following frequencies between 10100 and 10120:

Freq	Call	Mode	Baudrate	Remark
10102		RTTY	48-ARQ-E3	UNID Station with special code
10104		RTTY	81-SPEC	UNID Station with special code
10105	RKA 79	RTTY		TASS Press Agency Moscow, URS
10106	AOK	RTTY	75	US Naval Radio, Rota, E
10107.5	ATE 60	FAX	F3C +/-400	New Delhi Meteo, IND
10108		RTTY	200 SPEC	UNID Station with special code
10111	5 YE	RTTY		Nairobi Meteo, KEN
10112			75 SPEC	UNID Station with special code
10114		RTTY		KPL Press Agency Vientiane, Laos
10115	BAF 4	FAX	F3C +/-400	Beijing Meteo, CHN
10116.6	P6Z/RFGW	RTTY	144-FEC-A	MFA Paris, F
10120	RFFAA	RTTY	72-ARQ-E	French Ministry of Defense, Paris
10120	RGI 24	RTTY		TASS, Press Agency Moscow, URS

73 de HB9HAU QRP, schlegel@ccgate.ari.ch

. - I own my own words -
Bill Acito
acito@asdg.enet.dec.com
|d|i|g|i|t|a|l| Digital Equipment Corporation Hudson, MA

KC1GS qrp-ne qrp-l arci norcal amsat-na arrl-life

Listen for me on weekend and weekday lunchtime passes of AMRAD-OSCAR 27
(32 NA Grids, 4 EU, and 24 States Worked from FN42, QRP)

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: Brien Pepperdine <pepperb@gov.on.ca>
Subject: [9342] 30m qrp
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.90.960603233715.6361C-100000@govonca2.gov.on.ca>

While waiting for the retriever to finish her evening stroll at the cottage (where DOES she go at 12:30 a.m.? Hopefully no where there are skunks or porcupines) and come padding back to the door, I thought I would check out 30 m. LATE. Not much, but some, and I heard KE4COH calling CQ from Lancaster, S.C. Way up there at 101249 where CWists are rare to be found at the border between Morse and digitalis packetus, I had a nice 17 minutes with Chuck in S.C. This was his first time on 30m. I think, so what better time and place, hi. Anyhow, nice to grab someone anytime when qrp, and the dog finally wandered back, the Swedish film was much too dark on TV (gosh, so much fun, famine, cold, killing the neighbour's ox to ward off starvation at Christmas - great film topics), and time for bed having proved 30m. is alive at 12:30 a.m. I hope he likes 30m. and I get to rag chew again when sleep is not so beckoning.

At a more reasonable hour, 4 pm local, earlier that day, I had the pleasure of working Don, W3RDF, in Fenway, S.C., who I understand was portable qrp in some park. We had a great 2-way qrp for 10 minutes.

Weekend 30 m. was not all a pipeline to S.C. however, since I also managed N.J.; and found other frequencies fun qrp too (hoping for a qsl from the West Montauk Lighthouse Bicentennial Special Event, but that was on 20 m. you'll all be sorry to hear, hi).

30m. study is fine fun.

Brien
Toronto
VE3VAW

pepperb@gov.on.ca

TMPS:
NC OH MA TN OK AL NJ GA TX SC
Nova Scotia

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: "Jerry L. Kitterman" <jerry@otherside.com>
Subject: [9399] Address change
Message-ID: <31B50917.13D2@otherside.com>

Please send my messages to jerry@otherside.com INSTEAD OF
jerry@bbs.otherside.com.

Also I have one message to post to the QRP-L list:

Looking for a RIT mod for the HW-7. Also looking for any other mods for the HW-7. Really enjoying reading all the messages since I got on the list. Thinking seriously about that group buy from OHR.

72 Jerry WD9CTB
QRP ARCI 4786

jerry@otherside.com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: Marshall Emm <75230.1405@CompuServe.COM>
Subject: [9372] Atomic Keyer AK-1
Message-ID: <960604202222_75230.1405_HHB91-3@CompuServe.COM>

Anybody know how to get in touch with Embedded Research?

I got one of the AK-1 Atomic Keyer kits (actually one of several bought by WOHEP at Dayton) and have a couple of parts problems. I sent email to gmdsr@vivanet.com last Friday but have had no response.

Anybody got a name, call, phone number, something like that?

72
Marshall
AA0XI/VK5FN

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: Goemans <jgoemans@facstaff.wisc.edu>
Subject: [9385] Contact for 10-10 club ?
Message-ID: <199606042219.RAA50139@audumla.students.wisc.edu>

Hello all,

It is a bit premature, but a local ham was looking for a current 10-10 Club, Intl.Contact, either a name, callsign, Email address, whatever. Guess he is ready to join the "ranks" !

Whenever I give out my 10-10 number, the guy at the other end thinks I have missed a digit, my number is 4324 ! That's number was issued before a lot of the current 10 mtr ops were born !!

72 Paul

Paul R Goemans WA9PWP

4326 Clover Ct
Madison, Wi. 53711-4805
QRP ARCI 7291 NorCal 1226 QRP-L 127 FISTS 2153

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [9397] Contests QRP
Message-ID: <199606050257.CAA21640@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Bill, K5ZTY, posts that he is looking for contests.

I just got off the phone with Cam Hartford about an hour ago.
Here is what he gave me for a talk that I'm giving on Sat.

-----QRP ARCI Contests remaining in 96-----

Field Day - Milliwatt Field Day, send in logs from FD to Cam

Summer HB CW Sprint - July 14th

Summer HB SSB Sprint - August 4th

Fall QSO Party - October 19-20th

Holiday Sprint - December 1

That's all for the year for QRP ARCI.

Then there are the other QRP contests from MI and from
New England and others.

Details on all the above as they approach from the appropriate
sources. So clear the "honey do's" for those weekends.

Last I heard the NE QTTF is going to be a "lighthouse" event.
Is that correct or has it be finalized? I decided that since
I don't live near any such critters that I'd run out to Marfa TX
home of the Marfalights - supposedly UFO or alien related events.
Or the McDonald Observatory where a laser beam is reflected off
the moon to accurately measure distance between the earth and
the moon. That outta count as a lighthouse of some sort. :-)
I can't do the coast - too much water and it'll be hurricane
season.

I guess the gang in CO can run out to Ft Collins to WWV. :-)
Just don't have 10MHz IFs.

The NE QTTF is scheduled sometime in September. Not all that far away as far as time goes. It'll be here before you know it.

I thought about Loving County, least populated of the 254 counties in TX, but I've had enough dust and wind for the year thank you very much. :-)

So it looks one contest a month. For Nov you'll have to do ARRL Sweepstakes. I got a pin (I know - I paid the \$5, but it is a nice pin) for the mW effort. For SS this year I'm going to an antenna farm and I'm going to crank the power back up to 5W for the first time in over 5 years. Stand back world. :-)
Looking for one of the guys in NTCC (North Texas Contest Club) to loan me the antenna farm and I'll bring the rig. No second place in the 5 area QRP for me. :-) ;-)

FYI de K5F0/XE1 for FD 95

FYI de K5F0/C6A for FD 96

--

Chuck Adams (K5F0 CP-60) adams@sgi.com

K5F0 TMPS 1996 Qs=021 States=15 Confirmed=07 DX=01

AZ CA CO FL IL IN MI OK OR SD TN TX UT WI WY

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996

From: Marshall Emm <75230.1405@CompuServe.COM>

Subject: [9371] CQC Officers

Message-ID: <960604202216_75230.1405_HHB91-1@CompuServe.COM>

Following is a list of the current officers of the Colorado QRP Club, as elected at our last meeting.

President: Rich High, WOHEP

Vice President: Marshall Emm, AA0XI

Secretary: Dick Schneider (KB0SRY)

Treasurer: Roger Wendell, WB0JNR

Dick will be taking on the responsibilities of Membership Chairman in addition to those of Secretary.

72

Marshall

AA0XI/VK5FN

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: PDouglas12@aol.com
Subject: [9376] Dayton Diary part 4 , Sunday
Message-ID: <960604172343_318459803@emout16.mail.aol.com>

Our flight was at 5pm Sunday afternoon, so we stayed as long as we could to hear them call out the "have to be here to win" door prizes. The way it's done is they close the indoor vendor booths and gather all the remaining attendees into the main arena stands (looks like a small Madison Square Garden) . They call out the names from a big drum and winners holler from the stands and come on down. If nobody yells out, they call the next stub till they get a winner for that item and go on to the next. They were giving away awesome stuff like whole rigs, and dual band handies and beam antennas (what would I do with that on the plane?), even before the grand prizes. We (Jim Fitton, Tom Lifland, and I) didn't win anything. And we left before the ten grand prizes, hoping they would call our homes even before we got off the plane. You didn't have to be present to win one of the ten biggies. Me, I'm sitting there calculating what the tax is on a \$3000 "free" rig that they report to Uncle Sam. Anyway, I needn't have worried. Nobody called my house.

By Sunday afternoon, a lot of the flea market spots are empty (or full of trash--what a mess some folks leave--they must use a bulldozer to clean the lots). Some great bargains happen on Sunday, but many of them are weight-related. That is, the heavy stuff sells very very cheap because nobody wants to bring it back home. It is worthwhile, though, walking through to see what's left. That's the time to buy tee shirts, for example.

I found a fellow who was throwing in a free tee with every three because his son did them with the following ironic misspelling: " DX: Satisfaction Gauranteed."

I kinda' like it that way.

That's it. Hope I gave you a flavor of the experience. After discouraging the troops with the cost of attending this shindig, I thought it owed a good exposition on why it was worth it. This four days was just chocked full of good things for any active ham. I'll be back.

Preston WJ2V

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: PDouglas12@aol.com

Subject: [9377] Dayton Diary Part 1 (Long, and so are parts 2-4)
Message-ID: <960604172346_318459863@emout17.mail.aol.com>

Dayton 96 was over before I knew it. I should have taken notes. But here's some of what I remember.

Arrived Wednesday night at Days Inn South with Tom W2RFU about midnight. Room was ready and clean. The Days Inn S. has certainly seen better days, but it is on a very slow downward spirral, with only the beginnings of fraying showing, when you look closely. I understand some rooms were worse than others, and some had poor A/C. But ours was adequate, if not icy. The TV worked, the beds were firm, and clean. The bathroom was clean, though the tiles were showing repairs. All in all, about an AAA one diamond--maybe. Probably adequate to squeek by another year. By that time, maybe they'll do a renovation. The beadsread on my bed was torn right in the middle, which a better hotel would not have tolerated. Like I said, a slow decline.

Thursday Morning bright and early, coffee at the hospitality suite and then I got to sit with Paulette while she checked in the 100 FDIM registrants. It was neat helping her give out the materials and handing out the FDIM Id badges. I had a couple of errors on the badges, but not many, thanks to posting the database to the Dayton list.

The FDIM materials included written outlines and articles from the speakers, who had worked hard to provide original, topical materials. Antennas, rigs, theory. A bonanza. Speakers had been asked to keep commercialism out, so there was only passing reference to the blossoming kit/accessory market. Each registrant recieved a heavy goody bag full of written material. Paul Harden's book, the shareware software, and a full looseleaf were included. The FDIM had to close registration at the 100 mark, as the room couldn't have held more, and the materials would have run out! If Paulette, Bob and Bruce weren't really efficient planners, they could easily have been caught short by the suprising response.

Lunch was fun with Dr. Rick Z speaking of QRPing from a sailplane. Awesome slide show full of cockpit shots of sky earth and rig. Then more talks all afternoon.

The FDIM committee went out to dinner together, me, Paulette, Bruce and Bob (and my hometown friend Tom) at the Pine Club. Still the best aged steaks in town, and Thursday night we beat the mob who would be coming for the Hamvention by a day. Still had a 20 minute wait at the bar, which was fine. Prior experience told us that the wait on Friday and Saturday nights is prohibative unless you got there by 5pm during Hamvention weekend. By this time we had cause to celebrate. Everyone was pleased with FDIM; nobody wanted to lynch us, and the main part of FDIM appeared to be a resounding success.

Thursday night at 8 we had Paul Harden's talk about the technical aspects of the commonly available commercial rigs, with handout schematics, mods, and the ubiquitous NE602 chips. His book and talk have in common that they are logical, elegant and full of common sense. I have read the entire book now, and it is both good reading and valuable reference. If you build these little rigs, you are likely to find the book very valuable. Unfortunately, I missed some of Paul's talk because had to chase down extra tables for the vendors who came to participate in part two of the evening. After Paul's talk, QRPers started to drift across the hall, so that by around 9pm we started introducing the vendors who had come to show off their new goodies. The hotel had kindly removed the microphone, so I had to shout the introductions. Vendors stood on chairs and said a few words about their products. It worked out fine, despite the lack of PA. Then the sellers got to meet the folks who stopped by, and I think a lot of business was conducted. FDIW was over, which was, for me a bit of a relief.

End part 1

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: PDouglas12@aol.com
Subject: [9375] Dayton Diary Part 3 Saturday (long again)
Message-ID: <960604172342_318459780@emout14.mail.aol.com>

Saturday morning, Tom, W2RFU and I offered a ride to Jim Fitton and Dave Benson as we passed through the lobby. What a deal. Jim had a speaker's car parking pass. Talk about symbiosis. They got to skip the bus transport system, and we got to park in the insider's lot. No walking from the distant lots. Made the day. It was so easy, we set up to do the same thing on Sunday, and Jim even had a flight home at the same time as we, so it was very convenient.

Saturday, I spent a little time helping out at the G-QRP booth--mostly sold a couple of back issues of SPRAT and even managed to get the paperwork right on one new club member with Dick's help. Bruce (last name and call not in my memory banks) of Index Labs was there in the G-QRP booth and his little QRP Plus generated a lot of traffic all by themselves. At some point in there I renewed my QRP ARCI too, though Buck was having lots of trouble with the portable Apple computer he was using. I think he would have liked to use some bad words, but he was in a public place. :-)

Vendors complained that traffic was lighter this year, compared to '95, and

it did seem less crowded inside. Paid attendance was only down 2500 or so, but the lighter traffic was more due to the warm weather which drew the crowds out of the buildings and into the flea spaces.

Saturday night, we ate locally in an upscale cafeteria (like they seem to have all over Florida) that had a huge salad bar. There are really too many good places to eat right around the Days Inn S to waste time and money on the inside restaurant. If you didn't have a car, the way to get out was to hang around the lobby and look hungry. We asked a few folks to come along, and we had a good time with about three cars full. There were even good places within walking distance if you couldn't find a ride. Breakfasts were great right across the road each day in any of the several "family" restaurants that were within a three minute walk. Lots of us, having reached the mid point in life (give or take) wanted to eat stuff like salads, yogurt, chicken etc. It was an eye opener to discover we were all watching the fat intake. Wayne Green would be proud.

I am no longer interested in torturing myself with DC receivers, so I personally resisted the 40-9er building contest. I admit the oddly clean sound of a DC is easy on the ears, but I like operating with a superhet, thank you. Anyway, the crew came up with the most amazing 40-9ers you could imagine. One chap had one with matched accessories in tiny cases, all fitted into a wooden presentation box. Someone already mentioned to one built into the shell of a standard 9v transistor battery. The winner had a homemade reduction dial. Chuck, and Roy Llewellyn were the judges (Randy Rand too, I think.) No, I am not namedropping. I got to shake Roy's hand and tell him how much I admired his work.

>From the hospitality suite, it looks like digital dials are coming to the kit market. There was a gorgeous one in an OHR four bander already available from one of the vendors, Adventure Radio, I think. And Wilderness is coming out with the KC2. Modern chips (and some very bright engineers) are bringing these amenities into reach of the homebrewer. And the stuff isn't even expensive. Goodbye dial calibration blues.

Did anyone else notice MXM makes a complete (less case) SCAF audio filter kit (from Oct 92 QST) for \$35? I bought the only one that came to Dayton. I hear they are great filters. OHR makes the same one, I think, except it comes with a nice case. Costs more, though.

Exhaustion is setting in, so on to Sunday.

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: PDouglas12@aol.com
Subject: [9378] DaytonDiary Friday Part 2 (don't read if you didn't like part1)
Message-ID: <960604172338_318459739@emout12.mail.aol.com>

Ok, we're off to the Hamfest. First stop is the QRP ARCI and G QRP booths to drop off the QRP-L badges. The flea market opens early, but the indoors opens at noon on the first day. So I had to ask one of the DARA folks to allow me in to drop off the badges, or I'd have had to lug them all morning.

One of the DARA men escorted me in (I promised not to peek at any exhibits) and back out. Cool. If you've never been, you just can't get a feel for the enormity of the place. It is so big that walking up and down every aisle inside and out represents miles of walking. Miles, I said. I bought stuff.

I reupped my memberships and subscriptions. I found parts, solder (Ran into Chuck who led me to the solder he recommended --this is not the coincidence it might seem, despite there being 30,000 hams at Hara. He somehow stands out in a crowd.) I have some rules, though at Dayton. I don't buy big ticket used items as it is too anonymous and fraud is just too easy, and I don't buy batteries--too heavy to schlepp.

Now, the three days run together as far as the convention itself. They say the memory is the second thing to go. I went to the SSTV forum and learned what's out there now in inexpensive SSTV for the PC. There is some new stuff that is almost no cost that sends and receives great color pix. (Being a QRPer most of the time doesn't mean giving up other aspects of this wide hobby. And I run about 50 watts SSTV, I confess.)

The QRP forum was off campus this year at a nearby high school. I missed it, because it was just too inconvenient. I noticed that Steve Mendelsohn, ARRL VP was also off campus for his forum, and he took it as a "dis", I suspect.

QRP is a big interest group in Ham Radio today, and I hope DARA recognizes its importance by an on site forum next year.

Bathrooms. OK, this shouldn't be a topic, except it is a chronic problem at the Hamvention. By the midpoint of each day, the inside bathrooms (the outdoor ones are totally unspeakable, so I won't speak of them.) are covered with water to a depth of perhaps 1/8" from wall to wall. You can't pull your pants down. You can't put anything down as it will get wet with whatever that liquid on the floors must be. I know this is indelicate to speak of, but if you have ever needed to use a bathroom at Dayton, this may help.

First, there is no excuse for any of this, as DARA knows of the problem, and a few full time people (hired hands guys, not club members, and you know you can afford it--are you listening?) could make the Hamvention bathrooms fit for human use. Now, there are one or two bathrooms converted from women's to men's rooms for the convention (the ratio of men to women must be 20:1).

These are less used, as they are less obvious, and usually drier and cleaner. The best one (don't tell everybody) is directly behind booth #415.

There is a regular men's room in front of it that catches the traffic, leaving the few hardy (and desperate) individuals to venture beyond into what is a converted ladies' room. Incidentally, if the lunatics with miniature towers on their hard hats haven't already made it obvious, you know you are in the land of the dweebs when the guy in the next stall is having a conversation with his buddies on a handie while he is sitting there taking care of business. Scary.

Friday night, the Banquet. Pete did a terrific job. I won a reup on my Norcal membership. Ed Manuel won a Vibroplex bug. Guys won rig kits, accessories and good QRP stuff from donor vendors. Wonderful talks on bicycle mobiling (sorry, forget the speaker's name, but I loved the talk) and Chuck on QRP-L and CW and stuff. Incidentally, Chuck Adams had one of the best quotes of the weekend. He was standing on a chair judging the 40-9er construction contest Saturday night. He said something or other was so easy to understand because it wasn't exactly rocket science. Then he paused and admitted that he was in no position to say that because he IS a rocket scientist.

More hospitality suite, and a beer with some famous heroes of mine. And reluctant bed Friday night.

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: PDouglas12@aol.com
Subject: [9398] Diary corrections/memory fills
Message-ID: <960604230746_128061623@emout18.mail.aol.com>

1. The SCAF filter was from 624 kits. I will report on it later in the summer (when I get a chance to weld it together)
2. The distinguished 40-9er judges were Chuck Adams, Bill Kelsey, and Dick Szakonyi. Roy Llewellyn was there, but didn't judge.
3. Bruce Franklin is president of Index Labs, makers of the QRP Plus.
4. Please don't publish the diary without asking me. For one thing I have a cleaner copy with grammar, syntax and spelling corrected.

Preston WJ2V

Thanks Chuck and Bruce for the memory assists.

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: Stan Skelton <sskelton@cIn.etc.bc.ca>
Subject: [9360] dummy loads for qrp
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9606040931.B10785-0100000@sparky>

With all the talk about setting up dummy loads for qrp lately, I have detected a thread about not using wire wound resistors cause they change with temperature.....I have been using a radio shack resistor for my dummy load that I thought was not wire wound, now I'm not so sure....

Its about 1.75 inches long, 1/4 inch on the x-section with the following printed on it

CP-10 MEXICO 9438
50 () 10% DALE 10W

the () stands for Ohms.

Oh yeah, its ceramic with one side "filled in" with a whitish substance.

Anyone know if this puppy is wire wound or not?
TtFn....Stan T.M. VE7 SKT QRP-L #34

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: k7yha@juno.com (Richard H. Arland)
Subject: [9346] Haggis, breakfast of champions!
Message-ID: <19960604.105123.4391.1.k7yha@juno.com>

Shame on 'ye, lad.
A wee bit 'o haggis is good fer 'ye.!

GM30XX and GM4JJG managed to bring three of them to my surprise 37th birthday party held at G3RJV's QTH a few years back. Jo Dobbs had them a'boilin' away in the kitchen....thought something had crawled inside the house and died!

After being thoroughly humiliated by Ronnie, GM4JJG, because I coudna' recite Bobby Burns' Ode to the Haggis, he promptly did the honors and the feast was on. I guess, after copious amounts of single malt Highland Whiskey, my Highland heiratage (sp) got the better of me.....the haggis was REALLY good! Honest!

72/73 rich k7yha (ex G5CSU)

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: Doug Hall <doughall@nando.net>
Subject: [9401] Happy happy joy joy 30m QRP rig works
Message-ID: <199606050347.XAA10951@merlin.nando.net>

Hi gang,

I finally got the 30m kit running today. This is the 30m Gary Breed design that worked fine into a dummy load but went nuts on a real antenna on transmit. I dragged it into work and sniffed around with the spectrum analyzer and noticed that the signal out of the NE602 (used for TX offset) was really dirty. Turned out I had a wrong resistor value in series of the input of the mixer. (51K instead of 15K, but hey, at least the colors were right ;-). It appears that the input transistors on the NE602 want to be driven pretty hard or the output is ugly as sin.

With that out of the way I tweaked things up and set the output for about 3 watts. (Yes, I added a power level control.) Tuned around until I heard a CQ and proceeded to work UA6JY for my first contact with this little rig. Got a 579 out of ole Boris, too. I've been listening all evening now and the gel cell still reads 12 volts. Can't wait to take this thing to the beach this summer.

This is great! 30m is the ultimate QRP band. And what is it about building a QRP rig that makes you want to build another one? Can you have too many? Got a feeling my TS-850S is gonna collect some dust for a while. Now I can finally say
72,
Doug, KF4KL

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: Clark Fishman (FSAC) <cfishman@PICA.ARMY.MIL>
Subject: [9361] Help
Message-ID: <9606041222.aa09921@COR6.PICA.ARMY.MIL>

I lost my copy of 73 Magazine for Oct 1995...there is an article in there about a frequency synthesiser using a DDS chip
If someone could send me a copy of the article I would sure appreciate it and be glad to pay any expenses..

72, Clark Fishman WA2UNN cfishman@pica.army.mil

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: Tarte Pierre <ptarte@arcadis.be>
Subject: [9380] HELP ON5UP
Message-ID: <9606042151.AA00824@iris.arcadis.be>

Hello,

Wanted: schema and copy of user manual of

- (1) Palomar R-X noise bridge from Palomar Engineers, Escondido, Calif.
- (2) MFJ R-X noise bridge (MFJ-202B) from MFJ Enterprises, Inc.

Many thanks and best 72/73

ON5UP/QRP
TARTE ANDRE (ON5UP/QRP) (G-QRP CLUB 6524)
RUE DU TIGE,37,DREHANCE
B-5500-DINANT-BELGIUM
FAX:082/222832
E-MAIL :ptarte@arcadis.be

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: af852@rgfn.epcc.edu (William R Colbert)
Subject: [9379] I2YSB
Message-ID: <9606042152.AA11346@rgfn.epcc.Edu>

Just a word to let all know that I2YSB does have good ears and works QRP stations. Worked him at 0330 UTC, June 4, 10.108, 3 watts from Far West Texas (almost NM) QRP Plus & vertical. He was 5/8 so others should be able to work Sil also. GL 72/73 Ray

--

Ray Colbert, W5XE/V31XE, El Paso, Tx

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: k5zty@hamgate2.w5-f6cnb.ampr.org
Subject: [9393] July QRP contests??
Message-ID: <7272@sugarland.ampr.org>

I don't have any QRP tests on my calendar for July. Looking in the

contest corral in QST there is listed a AGCW QRP Summer Contest. Any body know what that is?

I need at least one QRP test per month or I get the ravishes.

72,

Bill, K5ZTY

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996

From: Pete Meier WK8S <pmeier@tir.com>

Subject: [9359] Minature Iambic Paddles?

Message-ID: <31B4408B.18CA@tir.com>

Hello everyone,

Does anyone have info on a very small iambic keyer paddle that I believe is made in England? I saw it a year or two ago at Dayton. It is a heavy (brass?), high quality key yet is extremely small. I'm interested in buying such a key.

Pete

--

Member of ARRL, ARCI, MI-QRP, G-QRP, NE-QRP, CQC

Pete Meier WK8S QRP-L#212 Email: pmeier@tir.com

Waterford, Michigan USA

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996

From: Marshall Emm <75230.1405@CompuServe.COM>

Subject: [9370] New CQC Address

Message-ID: <960604202217_75230.1405_HHB91-2@CompuServe.COM>

The Colorado QRP club has a new mailing address--

Colorado QRP Club

POB 371883

Denver CO 80237-1183

Please use this address for all ordinary correspondence including renewals, and for purchase of the Equipment Resource Directory (still available and only \$5 post paid).

HOWEVER, do NOT confuse this with the address for Low Down, which remains

Low Down

C/- Rich High, W0HEP
740 Galena St
AURORA CO 80010

Club email address remains CQC@aol.com

72
Marshall
CQC VP

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: wa5whn@ix.netcom.com (Jay Miller)
Subject: [9352] New England QRP AField, Sept. 21, 1996
Message-ID: <199606041338.GAA19942@dfw-ix12.ix.netcom.com>

OK, we are ready, we will check out everything, on June 22 & 23 during the ARRL Field Day, where all of those QRO Guys & Gals get to experience what we do, except they only do it once per year. Those Poor QRO Types. ;-) Anyway, we have a site selected, supposed to be some ancient sacred area with a "Light Tower" (theme for the NE QRP AField Event, Sept. 21, 1996). OK, OK, so we will stretch the "Light Tower" theme a bit. Have You ever heard of a ship wreck in NM ? There ! See, our light towers have saved lives too. Hint: What's the english word "Tower" translated into Spanish ? (Use the masculine noun, in Spanish). We have tall Ponderosa Pines on site, and we have permission to use this sacred area (Paul-NA5N, quit snickering). So, You New England QRP Types, and those who would like to participate, practice on June 22 & 23, for the real "QRP AField" Sept. 21, 1996. If You need information about this event, there are a multitude of New England QRP Radio Club Members that frequent the QRP-L. Just ask. Can You say enough room & trees for a Rhombic ? Maybe even 2 of them. <Big Grin> Pictures in the usual URL (NorCal Web Page will have the pointers), after the event. So, from New Mexico, on Sept. 21, 1996, from a Lighthouse (Honest, we do have them, but You will have to wait for the photos, after the event.) pointed North East, from a sacred site, will be 8 of us, calling "CQ NE QRP AField".

W1FMR & Gang, You have been challenged to a formal duel. 1,800+ miles, by QRP Xcvr. Do we get a handicap (like in Golf) since we are over 1,800+ miles away from New England, and we don't have any Cod, Lobster, Chowder, plus we don't murder the Queen's English either ? <Large Grin> If I can stop Paul Harden from snickering, we will be ready, Sept. 21,

1996, from a "Light House" in New Mexico. Don't ask, pictures after the event. Oh yeah, no wind either.

"72" - Which just also happens to be
the New England Club's (QRP) Newsletter.

...Jay, WA5WHN Albuquerque, NM

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: John Shuster <jshuster@silverlink.net>
Subject: [9391] OHR Group Buy next week. New Kits!
Message-ID: <199606050016.RAA01207@oly.olympic.net>

-- [From: John Shuster * EMC.Ver #2.5.02] --

To All:

I spoke with Dick at Oak Hills Research today. He has inventory built up for another QRP-L group purchase. He'll be sending me a discounted price list on his current kits and I'll post the group purchase announcement next week.

Dick has two new products to offer us:

The OHR 100 - single band radio, 5 watts out, 40, 30, 20, 17, and 15 meters.
It's a \$159.00 radio, but we're going to get a special introductory price. This model is a step above the Explorer II. This new model has some other significant features that Dick will be sending to me. More details to follow as I get them.

OHR Programmable Frequency Counter - Add jacks to the back of your QRP rigs and you'll be able to get an accurate frequency readout right off your VFO. Price will be somewhere under \$100 and we'll get in on the gravy with a special intro price to QRP-L members.

These new products will be shipped AFTER July 15th. Although there will be a 4 to 6 week delay as Dick assembles the kits, well be the first to get them and we'll do so at a savings.

As soon as I get all the info I'll post it. Rattle the piggy banks.

73,

John
KC7CKP

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: Jim Stafford-W4QO <w4qo@america.net>
Subject: [9373] QRP vs QRO - 1000 mi/watt award
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.960604161945.13135B-1000000@atl11>

There is a thread that appears now and then that goes along this line - If it weren't for the QRO op, you QRP guys couldn't make many QS0s. The validity of this statement is not the issue in this email.

Rather here is a way for everyone to ~reap the benefits of working thru a challenging QS0" and as Martha Stuart says, "It's a good thing." I checked with K5FO (Awards Manager for QRP-ARCI) and he confirms that both parties qualify for the 1000 miles per watt award. So when you find a particularly helpful QRO op that goes the extra mile (so to speak) and helps you get that new state/country on 100 microwatts (?), submit his/her name and pay for the award for them as well. What could be nicer?

Jim Stafford, W4QO NoGaQRP Group + RadioActive Schools(sm) -
11395 West Road Using amateur radio as
Roswell, GA 30075-2122 a teaching tool in north
770-993-9500 Georgia area schools.
Internet: w4qo@america.net Packet:W4QO@WA4BR0.#atl.ga.usa.na
QRP-L #267 QRP-QRCI #6515 G-QRP #5588 MiQRP #897 NorCal #1092 CQC #307

----- Forwarded message -----

Jim,

Both parties can get the award. Either or both can do it.
It takes \$4 to get the two awards. Lot's of times one person
will take one and have the other sent to the other party.

dit dit

--

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: "rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
Subject: [9386] RF chokes that appear in swaps
Message-ID: <n1378211429.76524@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu>

Going back thru some notes I have kept for years that RF types need from time to time, I found a chart of the RF solenoid type chokes that were popular for RF uses from the tube days until whenever Ohmite Corp. (resistor folks, mainly), quit cataloging them.

These might appear in swap meets and might be of some use if you know the Ohmite marking codes. These chokes were painted, 2 watt or more resistor sized, and you could see the turns under the paint. I have a Z-144 (?) that is bright red painted all over, and labeled simply "Z-xxx", but I am not sure ALL models were red, or whether the color also helped identify the model. Of course, these appear to be just a coil, so they could be used in other frequency ranges according to inductance needed.

I surmise, that the association with a frequency range comes from what impedance they presented as compared with tube impedances. Just because the Z-144 was listed as "80-200 MHz" does not mean it will not function at a band where a transistor circuit might need that much inductance. (If there is no frequency limiting core under the coil.)

Here is the complete list:

Model	Inductance	Frequency in MHz (see caveat above)
Z-7	84 micro hy.	3-20
Z-14	44	7-35
Z-28	21	20-60
Z-50	7	35-110
Z-144	1.8	80-200
Z-235	0.8	160-350
Z-460	0.2	320-520

As far as I remember, these chokes did not have a core that would limit frequency response, but anyone with a better memory or use experience is encouraged to let us know any other info on these.

The use of solenoid chokes in the 40-niner reminded me of these; and if size is not a limit on a project, these should work like any solenoid coil. They are not pie wound of Litz wire, at least not the ones I have seen.

Folks needing a solenoid coil are also reminded every Radio Shack carries an inductor assortment, and as an individual item, a 100 micro henry solenoid choke coil. It can be unwound into less inductance, if its core length is suitable for your project. This one does appear to be some type of inductive core; thus, there is probably a limit on how far you can unwind, ie the ratio of coil to core parameters, or am I in error? Comments?

A final question, has anyone found a ham use for the "peaking" coils, the encapsulated ones, in the RADIO Shack coil assortment, with color bands, and usually a red body, and dipped looking? As always, thanks in advance. This is a great group of sharing folks! 72 and 73,

--Stuart K5KVH
rohre@arlut.utexas.edu

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [9343] rtty 30M
Message-ID: <199606040421.EAA16253@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Gang,

Here are the freqs with commercial rtty stations.

10.106MHz
10.112MHz
10.113MHz
10.130MHz (this one is really strong in the Dallas area)

I greped through all the archives and could not find a listing of where these guys were. Who posted the commercial freqs and their power and locations? Could you do it again. These stations make excellent beacons even if they are running 10KW. :-)

dit dit es tnx

--

Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com
K5FO TMPS 1996 Qs=021 States=15 Confirmed=07 DX=01
AZ CA CO FL IL IN MI OK OR SD TN TX UT WI WY

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: harry.bump@hamdata.leba.net (Harry Bump)
Subject: [9369] Saint Louis Tuner

Message-ID: <832639277@hamdata.leba.net>

Hey Gang,

Saint Louie Tuner #139 is complete! Here's my thanks to those of Norcal and the Saint Louis QRP Society that made the project possible.

Now fer my notes (hope this isn't too much re-hash):

Had some trouble with L1 at first. Wound the coil once and got only 56 turns on it and it didn't look good. Tried to clean up one of the 'taps' with no luck; time to re-think. I cut the wire from the core and went to my wire spool for more. With the second attempt, I wound the coil to the first tap, then used my trusty propane torch to burn the enamel from the wire for about two inches. Very carefully, starting about two inches from the core and moving the flame towards it. The enamel burns from the heat before the flame gets there so there's no need to take the flame close to the core (yes, I re-lit the torch twelve times). Rubbing with a bit of steel wool yields a couple inches of wire without insulation. Then I folded the uninsulated part in half, bringing the working end of the wire back to the core. Grab both wires there with a hemostat or needlenose pliers and give the bare wires a twist or two as close to the core as you can. Squeeze the parallel wires together and solder. Then you can continue to wind to the next tap. Doing it this way I got my 60 turns and had a bit of room left over!

Oh, someone had asked the group about the 'flat edge' of the core. That is the part that's on the table when you lay the core on the table, as opposed to the 'outside edge' which is the outside curve of the 'donut'. The goal is to get the taps sticking out of one flat edge (or side) so that when the core is positioned behind the switch the taps line up with the twelve switch tabs.

Before installing the coil, solder a wire on point 'A' of the twelve position switch and connect it through point '12'. This is the ground wire that was missing on the schematic and later will be connected to ground.

Also have a note about page 8 step 11, where the RF wires from the pc board are to connect to the front panel switch #1. Get the front panel and board mounted to the bottom shell half, then position the two wires that go to point 'A' and point '1'. Just get the wire lengths right, don't worry about trying to connect the wires or wedge a soldering iron and solder in there. Then remove both the board and front panel from the shell. It's now much easier to position those wires alongside the switch tabs and solder them! If you cut the

wires right it will go back together easily. I also added a piece of insulation to cover the wire to position '1' (the one that goes UNDER the board).

It looks good and works great!

73,

Harry, KM3D

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: "W. Daniel, 9V1ZV" <daniel@pandora.lugs.org.sg>
Subject: [9358] Snagged another!
Message-ID: <31b443bf.pandora@pandora.lugs.org.sg>

Hi Gang,

Well today I had the day off so I decided to take apart my ARK-20 for some alignment work just so I have some peace of mind. I also adjusted my coax feed to the dipole so that it feeds orthogonally to the dipole itself. So after spending most of the afternoon aligning the rig and putting it back together I decided to see if I could get a few QSO's.

As it turned out, the propagation was not too bad. Although most of the stations were rather weak with QSB there were quite a number of stations out there. Managed to work one K5NU in Portland and one K3ZO in Maryland USA with my 3 watts out or so. Not too bad. Roving around I made some more Q's. This ARK-20 is a truly fantastic rig.

Anyway while I was listening to one particular loud station to finish with the hope of tail-ending it, I heard another call nearby. This was a very weak one, a 449 with QSB. It sounded like AP2HA to me and upon listening further it seems that I heard right. Keying this into my logger (homebrew software :-)) it reported Pakistan and a new DXCC for me if I made the Q. So I waited for the Paksitani to finish his QSO and started calling with my call, 9V1ZV. No dice. A loud Japanese station stomped right over me followed by a few others. It looked like our Pakistani friend is having a run and his signal was getting weaker and weaker at my end too. His name was Hasnat as he gave it to every other station he worked.

At this point, I was thinking maybe I should just give it up since he was so weak and I was running QRP. An unlikely combination it seemed to me.

But the lure of a new one was not easy to ignore. I decided to hang around a bit to see what happens. Soon his run was over and he started calling CQ. No one replied so I thought "This is my chance!". He was going quite slow so I sent my call slow. He did not hear me and started his CQ again. I thought I'd try 100 Hz lower and quite a bit slower. This time he was quiet a moment and then sent QRZ? QRZ? Could it be me he heard. Once again I sent my call 4 times really slow. Then joy! he replied 9V1ZV 9V1ZV de AP2HA KN. Aha! I got him and was now praying that no big station would stomp over me before the formal exchange was over. Indeed I made it and got through the RST's for which I received a 429 and gave him a 439. Wow! I really didn't think I could get this one but there you have it, never under-estimate what can be done with just a little.

Another few things I learnt, when working really weak stations, send real slow. I found that this usually gets me the QS0. Sending fast is nice but QSB tends to take out most of the dits and the remote station will not hear you properly. It helps that I am a 9V1 since that is a semi-rare call. Another thing, never assume that since they are weak, we being QRP cannot be heard. There are some pretty good ears out there and the propagation is kinda weird. Furthermore, the path may change over a matter of minutes so it pays to hang around a bit if you really want the station.

Well, that's my AP2HA story. After that QS0 I pulled the big switch, contented :-) Made my day!

73 de 9V1ZV Daniel

p.s. The above was done on 20m of course, on 14004.5 MHz with the ARK-20 putting out a tad over 3 watts into a homebrew 1/2 wave dipole some 11-storays up where I live. The dipole opens out to the NE direction. I also use an MFJ-945D mobile tuner for the matching.

--

Daniel Wee | daniel@pandora.lugs.org.sg
9V1ZV | daniel.wee@f516.n600.z6.fidonet.org

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: Joe Gervais <vole@primenet.com>
Subject: [9344] Spartan Masochism Sprint
Message-ID: <199606040555.WAA11835@primenet.com>

Adventure Radio Society's Spartan Sprint, 6/3/96

Hmm... Let's check Webster's. Spartan: Brave, hardy,

stoical. Yep, that's about what it took to be on the air hunting for fellow QRP'ers tonight! Terrible conditions on 40m. QRN was peaking at S7 here at Chez Gervais. Which is perfect for a QRP contest. Wouldn't be any fun if it was easy, now would it? :-)

Only managed to make six contacts, but my first was with a fellow in Santee, CA who didn't know I was in a contest. Turned into a 30 minute chat. Do I get any multipliers for ragchewing? :-)

Highlight was working Malcolm, AA7WT (Montana, a new QRP WAS state for me - wahoo!). Had to fight through brutal QRM on 7.040 to make the contact though. I'm *very* diligent about calling QRZ? a few times and listening carefully, so they weren't there when I asked. Sounded like someone was tuning up a KW and forgot they had the key down. For five minutes. Bleh. But the contact was finally made, so two QRP'ers prevail. Score one for the home team! Bonus points for showing Spartan hardiness and bravery? :-)
Kudos to Malcolm for hanging in there!

Also bumped into Richard, KI6SN again. If that happens one more time I'm going to have to invite him over for dinner. Very nice signal for his one watt.

Fellow AZ ScQRPion Kent, AB7OA and I were hunting for each other, but no luck. He heard me a few times, but 40m groundwave just wasn't working for us. Next time I'll have to head into the hills.

All in all, lots of fun. I didn't have my backpacking setup together (NorCal-40a, 1.2AH camcorder battery, Whiterook keyer and tuned dipole) so I went with my home station (QRP+ with all the trimmings). Sorry if I missed anyone tonight - I tried my best to pull everyone in.

Results: 6 QSO's, 14.7 lbs.

See you all on the air!

Cheers de KC7NEV,

-Joe, vole@primenet.com, AZ ScQRPion #7, ARS #48

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: Mike Cloud <cloudm@mhsgate.meth-mem.org>
Subject: [9354] Spartan Sprint
Message-ID: <A1F7B33101172C16@mhsgate.meth-mem.org>

First, let me apologize to all the OPs that attempted to call me on 40m. As noted before the QRN on 40 was terrific plus we had a BIG thunderstorm move thru immediately before the start of the sprint. Tnx fer trying guys, maybe next time. The gud news was that 20 was fairly quiet. Working the qrp gear into the base beam and pointing W/NW I was able to work KK6MC outa NM very well. Unfortunately he seemed to be the only sprinter on 20m, hi hi. Working the 40m double bazooka I was able to work AC4WB in NC. He was QRO but knew abt the sprint. Heard a number of 2/6/7 stations calling but at QRP levels the noise and static crashes were tremendous and seemed timed to blot out the character(s) I was trying to copy repeatedly, hi hi. Soooo, I have 1 qrp contact on 20m and one QRO/QRP contact on 40m. For a grand qso rate of 2 per hour, hi hi. Was fun anyway. All 2 of my contacts were at 5 watts. I calculate my weight as follows:

Index Labs QRP+	=	5.1 lbs
MFJ Tuner	=	1.5 lbs (went direct thru the tuner cuz my ants are all resonant but it was inline)
Bencher Iambic Paddles	=	2.9 lbs
PS (7ah gelcell, 2X5 wt Solarex panels, Controller)	=	8 lbs
Grand total	=	17.5 lbs

At this rate WAS/QRP will weigh abt 450 lbs (hi, hi).

BTW: for ARS fans. I am planning a canoe trip this Saturday es Sunday (June 8/9) down the Buffalo River in Tennessee (abt halfway between Jackson, TN es Nashville, TN, south abt 30 miles es close to Savannah, TN). My plans are to crank up QRP/P abt 8 pm CDT, Saturday fer a couple of hours on or abt 10.106 - up

73/72 de Mike, KR4IT, QRP-L 444, ARS 11

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: "richard wilkerson" <richqrp@msn.com>
Subject: [9387] Spartan Sprint
Message-ID: <UPMAIL07.199606042246210457@msn.com>

Well I did not make many contacts but my first was a long one and made a new friend hi hi (hello there Joe) He lived just up the road a bit from me about 10 yrs. ago so that qso ended up being a update of what has changed here in Santee. Two other contacts one in Ca. and the other in Austin, Tx. .. I had trouble with the rig just before the contest, the final blew out, seems my xyl had placed something on my key and the rig was still on..oh well...I had it fixed just in time to make the sprint...It was a lot of fun..It was also the first contest I have been in..rig was NW 8040 ,operating from my front yard with enough coax to reach my 5th wheel where I have a Hustler resonator for 40 mtrs. See all next month..72's rich wd6fdd

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: "Kerry W. Miller" <kmiller@flash.net>
Subject: [9357] Spartan Sprint Scoring?
Message-ID: <1.5.4.32.19960604143941.00671c7c@mail.flash.net>

> Bencher Iambic Paddles = 2.9 lbs
> PS (7ah gelcell, 2X5 wt Solarex panels, Controller) = 8 lbs
>
> Grand total = 17.5 lbs

Is this what cb-er's meant when they used to say "you're putting X pounds on me? If so, and their boat anchors are as heavy as mine, it could explain brain damage and other strange activities on the 27 MHz band...

Kerry

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      \\\  
      (  )  
      ( oo )  
|-----oo00--()--00oo-----|  
| Kerry Miller                Royse City, TX |  
|                                WD5ABC        |  
|-----|  
kmiller@flash.net
```

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: "David Kreinberg" <kreinbd@ccgate.dl.nec.com>
Subject: [9374] TOONING THANKS
Message-ID: <9605048339.AA833926873@smtpgw.ccgate.dl.nec.com>

Folks:

Many thanks to all the very helpful answers I received concerning my tuning dilemma.

I'll try some of the various techniques, and report back as to which were the most effective for me.

Again, thanks. you all always come thru!

73 de Dave AC5GY
AC5GY Tmps 1996 Qs=001 States=01 Confirmed=00 DX=00
ME

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: "David Kreinberg" <kreinbd@ccgate.dl.nec.com>
Subject: [9350] TUNIN' WID A FANCY RIG
Message-ID: <9605048339.AA833900893@smtpgw.ccgate.dl.nec.com>

Gang:

Well, it's confession time: I have purchased my very first commercial rig ever. Picked up a Yaesu FT-840 to accompany my QRP kit rigs. My reasons for doing this are many, but the bottom line is I had to finally see, experience the BIG rig feel at this point in my ham career.

Now, on to the technical stuff: Having never owned a rig with digital tuning, I feel kind of intimidated with how one accurately tunes a CW station. I know this sounds incredibly basic (as in baseball - the fundamentals are the most important) to many of you, but I have trouble with this. The manual helps a bit, however I look to you folks to set me straight once again.

My rig's tx offset is set at 700Hz (can be set from 400Hz to 1000Hz). The rig's sidetone monitor is likewise set to 700Hz. Do I simply tune the desired station for a "nice" sounding tone, then hit the key a few times to audibly "match" the sidetone (700Hz) while tuning for a receive station tone at 700Hz? Maybe I'm tone deaf, because I have always had trouble audibly "matching" two tones dead on. Either a bit too high or low, rarely right on.

The rig also has a MOX key, however the manual simply states that this key "manually activates the transmitter" and never mentions a practical use for it. Does this key the rig, but not put out any RF (for tuning purposes)??

Again, sorry for the basic questions, but this is a very frustrating issue for me. With all the QRM/N and tight filters being used by others, I want to make sure that when I spot a contact, I will be operating close to his/her frequency.

TMPS: Finally have 30m capabilities (using my 40m inverted vee and tuner). Caught WA5CVM (Joel in Maine) at about 0330z on 10.115. Me 579 @ 4 watts, him 559 QRO. Hope to catch up with you all soon.

Thanks for your advice on the tuning/beating deal.

72/73 de Dave AC5GY

QRP-L #25

TMPS 1996 Qs=001 States=01 Confirmed=00 DX=00

ME

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [9400] Voltage Standards continued
Message-ID: <199606050330.DAA21814@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

At the suggestion of several from the list I tried the Silver Oxide batteries typical of use in watches.

Eveready Energizer (R) #391 1.5V measured two at 1.600V and 1.603V respectively. If anyone has/buys/ or measures one of any types of Silver Oxide send me the

data. I'll summarize.

tnx

--

Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com
K5FO TMPS 1996 Qs=021 States=15 Confirmed=07 DX=01
AZ CA CO FL IL IN MI OK OR SD TN TX UT WI WY

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: JCoote@aol.com
Subject: [9395] WANT: Other ham, public-safety, professional 2-way radio groups & sites
Message-ID: <960604214131_127992774@emout12.mail.aol.com>

Hi,

I'm looking for other useful amateur radio, professional 2-way radio, public safety 2-way radio sites and newsgroups.

I'm in public safety radio communications (law enforcement); a member of APCO; ham extra, etc etc.

Especially looking for "radio mods" sites and newsgroups.

Thanks,

Jay
WB6AAM

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: "Robert J. Gobrick" <rgobrick@nfld.com>
Subject: [9389] Re: Atomic Keyer AK-1
Message-ID: <2.2.32.19960603220504.00a041b8@public.compusult.nf.ca>

Marshall,

In addition to Gary Diana N2JGU at the address you gave - the other "embedded guru" is

Brad Mitchell WB8YGG at bmitchel@kodak.com

I've got my Atomic Keyer AK-1 on the bench here getting a "neutron charge" for Field Day..

73/72 Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB

At 16:22 6/4/96 EDT, you wrote:

>Anybody know how to get in touch with Embedded Research?

>

>I got one of the AK-1 Atomic Keyer kits (actually one of several bought by W0HEP

>at Dayton) and have a couple of parts problems. I sent email to

>gmddsr@vivanet.com last Friday but have had no response.

>

>Anybody got a name, call, phone number, something like that?

>

>72

>Marshall

>AA0XI/VK5FN

>

>

>

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-----
| Bob Gobrick - V01DRB/WA6ERB/VE2DRB - Newfoundland, Canada |
| QRP'er Galore - ARCI, GQRP, NORCAL, NEQRP, COQRP, MIQRP, NWQRP |
| Internet:      rgobrick@nfld.com |
|                bgobrick@nlnet.nf.ca |
| Compuserve:   70466.1405@compuserve.com |
|-----
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From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996

From: "L. B. Cebik" <cebik@utkux.utcc.utk.edu>

Subject: [9347] Re: Delta Loops

Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.960604075515.21697A-100000@utkux4.utcc.utk.edu>

On Mon, 3 Jun 1996, Cam Hartford wrote:

> In ON4UN's book, "Low Band DXing" there is an interesting discussion of the
> delta loop. He suggests that if the loop is fed at a point which is a
> quarter wave down one side from the top, it acts as two verticals with the
> bottom essentially a radial. This gives the lowest possible angle of
> radiation from a delta, which in some circumstances would make it more
> useful than a center-bottom fed loop.

Cam,

Good question. ON4UN's book is a classic with many excellent presentations and ideas for the "low" band operator. Unfortunately, he did not have access to contemporary antenna modeling techniques that

provide a check on the kind of mental pictures we often use to develop explanations. And in this case, the author goes a bit astray.

For the "apex on top, horizontal wire on the bottom" version of the delta loop, the lowest angle of maximum radiation occurs when fed about 25% up from the bottom. This point coincides with the weakest total radiation field (predominantly vertically polarized) (<1.4 dBi at 15 degrees up) due to interactive cancellations of currents in the wires, especially in the upper regions of the antenna. This can be seen by examining a chart of the wire currents and watching their phase angles: there are areas in which the "vertical" wires have comparable currents but opposing phase angles in near proximity--a good condition for a partial cancellation of fields.

Feeding the wire at the 3/4 up point--or your 25% down point yields a modification of the top-apex fed version, with a reduction of gain to 4.6 dBi (from the max near 6 dBi) at 36 degrees as the angle of maximum radiation. The currents do not distribute themselves in mutually reinforcing ways, but simply progress along the full-wave loop with max at the feedpoint and a secondary max approximately a half-wavelength of wire around the loop. Current minima are approximately 1/4 wavelength from maxima, which places them at geometrically odd points for uncentered feed points, like either the 25% up or the 25% down locations. (I add the term "approximate" since mutual interaction over the antenna's geometry, plus ground reflections, complicate matters--and these complications are clearly visible in a chart of currents along the antenna wire.)

Best delta loop performance occurs with the apex down, fed either at top (inconvenient) center or at the bottom apex. The antenna is best suited to situations where a full-length dipole cannot be placed at the height of the top wire of the delta. The full-length dipole at that height will provide roughly equal performance as the loop, but with half as much wire (but all of it "way up"). A quad loop will perform similarly, with its top wire at the same height as the delta loop top wire (which will raise the bottom wire, since the quad is 1/4 wl on a side). The Quad loop fits where only 1/4 wl linear space is available.

In general (rule-of-thumb time) a quad or delta loop will provide about 1.8 dB additional gain over a dipole whose height is about centered in the loops vertical plane. Raise the dipole to the top of the loop, and the difference disappears, but at the expense of a longer antenna. Hence, first, think as HIGH as you can possibly erect and maintain. Second, think loop when linear available linear space is less than 1/2 wl, but vertical space is available.

BUT, do not throw away your copy of ON4UN's book--there is too much of value in it on a whole lot of subjects. Hope this is useful (and hence,

distributing to QRP-L).

-73-

LB, W4RNL

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: "Mark S. Adams" <msadams@acsu.buffalo.edu>
Subject: [9349] Re: Delta Loops
Message-ID: <31B45E6D.2052@acsu.buffalo.edu>

Hi L.B. and Gang,

LB- The delta loop questions are sure difficult as this antenna seems to be somewhat difficult to model and first hand experience seems to counter the computer analysis. I have a delta in the air now. Its been up for over a year. Its configuration is as follows:

- * apex up at 35'
- * horizontal wire at 10'
- * cut to 142' length
- * fed with 450 ohm line at abt 5' up from a lower corner.

I initially installed it with the feed at the apex. Worked ZERO DX in abt 3 months. After the feed change the DX was plentiful and the close in contacts were hard to come by. This seems contrary to the computer modeling. My antenna also seems to pull in 4-land like gangbusters. I suppose that is because I have an E-W gutter that is abt 8' from the loop helping it to radiate towards the south from here in WNY.

So LB, do you think that I would be better off with a dipole all at 35' fed with ladder line instead of the loop with the lower avg height? I have struggled with this question for a while but I hate to climb on the roof and make changes when the loop works well. An option that I do not have is hanging the loop vertically. Part of the house is in the way.

I read in an old QST article on diamond loops (this fella had a delta up first) that the delta had a much more variable signal. The diamond was far better for him. Again this is with one high support.

Well, at any rate, even superb and undeniably excellent advice will not get acted upon here until my broken pelvis heals!

See you on 30M!

--

72's de Mark/N2VPK

TMPS 1996 Q's=43 WAS=19 Confirmed=00 DX=05
AL CA CO CT IN FL KY MA MI MD ME NC NY PA SC SD TN TX WI
CT3 VE1 6W1 OZ7 HC1

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: "L. B. Cebik" <cebik@utkux.utcc.utk.edu>
Subject: [9363] Re: Delta Loops
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.960604122159.24490F-100000@utkux4.utcc.utk.edu>

Mark,

Do not change anything (unless you just want to, that is). If you will notice on one of my previous posts, when the bottom horizontal wire is very close to the ground (my model used 5', but 10' ain't significantly better), the gain of the antenna drops radically at all angles of radiation. It is under these conditions that side or corner feed may be superior. The gain at a 5' bottom wire height with bottom or top center feed drops to almost -5 dBi, with max gain at a whoppingly high angle of 72 degrees. The side-corner fed model tends to hold its gain at about 1.4 or so as the antenna is lowered from the more optimal heights used for some of the other models.

35' is only about a quarter-wavelength up--not a real good height for dipoles, Yagis, or other planar horizontal antennas (on 7 MHz band). If that is all one can do, then one should do it. But for horizontals, something around a half wavelength up and higher improves low angle performance tremendously. 35' becomes a sort of bare minimum for fair to good performance of horizontal antennas on 20 meters and up. (Yes, they will perform lower, but I am speaking in comparative terms here.)

That is why verticals are often used on 160-40 meters. The GAP works well, but is very tall. Quarter wave verticals trapped for 40-10 meters (Butternut, Hy-Gain, etc.) tend to do better on roof tops with drooping radials (more than the instruction sheet minimum). That is because the drooping radials act as much like the other half of a vertical dipole as they act like a ground plane in this configuration. (I have used a 14AVQ for several years with great success from a roof top, and now have a GAP VI going on its 6th year of uninterrupted service.)

Because so much of an actual installation depends upon surround objects, it is difficult to say which might be better--the elevated or half-wavelength vertical or the side-fed delta when the bottom wire is very low. Getting half a dozen folks to invest in both and put each one up very carefully for side-by-side tests would be asking more than folks can do. Wire loops are cheap; roof-top verticals are compact--more than

theoretical performance will go into the final decision.

But never argue with success. Except for periodic maintenance, never take down an antenna that is performing well. But if you get the chance to add an antenna for comparative performance checks, then by all means try it out. (But only after you are mended!) And I would not change the feedpoint of the delta unless you get a change to elevate it so the bottom wire is up 25' or more.

Hope this clarifies the earlier notes, most of which are based on more highly elevated antennas than your installation.

Get well soon.

-73-
LB, W4RNL

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: "David D. Meacham" <ddm@datatamers.com>
Subject: [9364] Re: Delta Loops
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.960604100847.1924E-100000@dt1.datatamers.com>

Mark,
I have had the same results that you have had! My apex is at 37 ft, bottom wire at 7 ft, fed 1/4-wave down from apex with 72-Ohm transmitting twinlead, from a Johnson-Matchbox tuner. Antenna no good until about 500 miles out. Really plays beyond 900 miles out. Easily covers the whole 40m band. I love it for DX!
72, Dave, W6EMD

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: "David D. Meacham" <ddm@datatamers.com>
Subject: [9365] Re: dummy loads for qrp
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.960604101705.1924F-100000@dt1.datatamers.com>

Stan,
The reason for not using wire-wound resistors is that they are inductive (not a purely-resistive load).
72, Dave, W6EMD

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: Jack Ponton <jwp@chemeng.ed.ac.uk>
Subject: [9345] Re: GQRP - Re: Altoids and 80M Loops
Message-ID: <199606040936.KAA18223@mh.or.chemeng.ed.ac.uk>

->
-> By the way for the British non-believers my Altoids tin in front of me reads
-> "The Original Celebrated CURIOSLY STRONG PEPPERMINTS ALTOIDS". Made in
-> Great Britain and distributed by Callard & Bowser-Suchard Inc, Elmsford New
-> York (home of the great American chili and salsa - that's an inside American
-> joke).
->
-> So there you have it - a British product duped on to the gullible American
-> market-place and yes the tins make GREAT 49er transceiver cases - hi. Don't
-> you wish you had some there - maybe we can export them to you all!
->

Bob,

So thats what Altoids are!

I'm also sceptical about 'English muffins' which I can get for
breakfast in the US but have never seen on this side of the Atlantic.

On the other hand, Rose's lime juice, which gave British sailors their
name amongst Americans, comes in the same kind of bottle here and in the
US but is actually much nicer in your version.

Here in Scotland we don't eat a great deal of haggis....

72/3

Jack, gm0rww

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: Dick G0BPS <Dick@kanga.demon.co.uk>
Subject: [9362] Re: GQRP - Re: Altoids and 80M Loops
Message-ID: <0vFXRFAZ22qxEwPF@kanga.demon.co.uk>

In message <2.2.32.19960602225135.00a12a34@public.compusult.nf.ca>,
"Robert J. Gobrick" <rgobrick@nfld.com> writes

>
>

>By the way for the British non-believers my Altoids tin in front of me reads

>"The Original Celebrated CURIOSLY STRONG PEPPERMINTS ALTOIDS". Made in
>Great Britain and distributed by Callard & Bowser-Suchard Inc, Elmsford New
>York (home of the great American chili and salsa - that's an inside American
>joke).

>

>So there you have it - a British product duped on to the gullible American
>market-place and yes the tins make GREAT 49er transceiver cases - hi. Don't
>you wish you had some there - maybe we can export them to you all!

Well gang, what more can we Brits say. Since my return from that
great party at Dayton I have been checking out this 'British' thing
called 'Altoids'. All the sweet (for the Americans you know them as
candy) shops I have asked have NEVER HEARD OF THEM. They are made by us
for the US market only it appears.

As for the 'strong' well, I will bring some real strong mints over to
Dayton next year.

As for being great containers for rigs, I agree. I brought a couple back
to build something in, what, I haven't decided yet.

Should have brought my snuff box over to the show and tell. Thats only
1.25in diameter and 1/2in high with a Rx in it. (including the speaker!)

TTFN de ...

Dick G0BPS / G0R00 <http://ukinternet.com/ham/kanga>
Kanga Products The UKs leading QRP kit supplier

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: "Frank G3YCC" <g3ycc@enterprise.net>
Subject: [9382] Re: GQRP - Re: Altoids and 80M Loops
Message-ID: <199606042310.XAA28162@mail.enterprise.net>

>

>

> Here in Scotland we don't eat a great deal of haggis....
But you lot will insist on using salt on porridge! I prefer cream, or
butter, or both. :-)

>

> 72/3

>

> Jack, gm0rwu
> ---
> Via GQRP-L - The G-QRP Club mailing list
>
>

Cheers, Jack!

73

Frank G3YCC G QRP 042

QRP Web Page: <http://homepages.enterprise.net/g3ycc/>

Packet: G3YCC@GB7HUL.#15.GBR.EU

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: "Frank G3YCC" <g3ycc@enterprise.net>
Subject: [9383] Re: GQRP - Re: Altoids and 80M Loops
Message-ID: <199606042310.XAA28215@mail.enterprise.net>

> Should have brought my snuff box over to the show and tell. Thats only
> 1.25in diameter and 1/2in high with a Rx in it. (including the speaker!)
>

Could be dangerous! You know how vicars like the odd sniff of snuff.
Just imagine RJV visiting your shack and fancying a snort of baccy,
when WHOOOSH, there goes your rig! Explain that to the insurance man!

> TTFN de ..

>

> Dick G0BPS / G0R00 <http://ukinternet.com/ham/kanga>
> Kanga Products The UKs leading QRP kit supplier

> ---

> Via GQRP-L - The G-QRP Club mailing list

>

>

Cheers!

73

Frank G3YCC G QRP 042

QRP Web Page: <http://homepages.enterprise.net/g3ycc/>

Packet: G3YCC@GB7HUL.#15.GBR.EU

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996

From: torell@sicom.com (Kent Torell)
Subject: [9381] Re: Ground Waves
Message-ID: <v02130503add918e91442@[192.91.202.41]>

>Is there any way of estimating the distance a ground wave will travel as a
>function of the transmitter power, frequency, type of antenna etc.? I
>have been trying to use my 40-9er to communicate with a friend whow lives
>30 mi. away and I suspect that we are too far for a ground wave and too
>close for skip.

First, a ground wave is always vertically polarized, so you need an antenna that will give an appreciable vertical component, like a vertical. Next, the propagation is a function of frequency and ground conductivity. If you get out too far, the curvature of the earth will start increasing the attenuation, but 30 miles isn't far enough yet.

I estimate 135 dB path loss, give or take 5 dB, assuming you are on the good earth up there in wheat country. I'd give a better estimate, but the computer program I have on file has a major equation bug in it, and I haven't been able to fix it. Anyone out there have a good routine?

In summer at 7 Mhz, you have an average of 50 dB excess noise up there in the evening, or $-174 + 50 = -124$ dBm/Hz at the antenna. A 500 Hz bw direct conversion receiver has a bw of 30 dB. Threshold for your ear is around 0 dB (esp levels!), so the signal strength needs to be -94 dBm at the receiving antenna. Adding the 135 dB path loss, we get +41 dBm, or about 10 watts effective radiated power (Tx power plus Tx antenna gain). On a good day, with a good vertical you might make it... Most of my ground wave contacts have been around 10 to 15 miles in the city.

Kent Torell torell@sicom.com 602-483-2867 x40
SICOM 7585 E. Redfield, #202 Scottsdale, AZ 85260
AB7OA TMPS 1996 Qs=009 States=08 Confirmed=01 DX=00
AZ CO HI KS OK OR TX WA

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: bfollett@ditell.com
Subject: [9368] Re: Minature Iambic Paddles?
Message-ID: <199606041811.MAA31532@orion.ditell.com>

Pete:

What you want is the G4ZPY Paddle Keys International, # 56 Miniature "3-in-1"

Twin Paddle Key priced at 75 pounds plus 5 pounds airmail to the US/Canada. You can also get it w/o base, # 58, for 63.50 pounds, including Airmail.

Specs:

weight is 150Gms, can be tied to leg with supplied velcro, or attached to anything steel with its magnetic base. The base is 45mm x 45mm. It has teardrop shaped black acetate plastic finger pieces.

Call them between 1900 and 2200 GMT at 44.1704.894299 7 days a week. They take VISA/MasterCard.

I believe they engrave your call on the top of that particular paddle for no charge.

I personally haven't ordered one yet, (I already feel like a paddle collector) but I know DR Rick Z owns one if you need any operational input. The usual disclaimers...I just happen to have their current catalog & price list.

73, Bob

Bob Follett WA7FCU, QRP-L # 129, NorCal, ARCI, 10-10
2861 Estates Dr. VOICE: 801.649.6457
Park City, UT 84060 Home Office E-mail: bfollett.ditell.com

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: "Robert J. Gobrick" <rgobrick@nfld.com>
Subject: [9388] Re: Minature Iambic Paddles?
Message-ID: <2.2.32.19960603220501.00a13078@public.compuser.nf.ca>

Hi Pete (Meisterbanquetbrau for Dayton QRP ARCI).

That was no English key you saw - that was one of those really nice (and really expensive deutsch mark) German Schurr-Morestasten keys. I know that Dave Benson NN1G has one because he brought it to the QRP hospitality suite at Dayton I think a year or so ago.

I didn't see the key exhibited on Friday but on Saturday I saw it at the table that was selling those unique Russian 24 hour wrist watches - who bought one of those???

This year I picked up from Kent (UK firm) a capacitance key and keyer kit - will build it soon and report on it - ain't no Schurr but it is portable.

73/72 Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB

PS: To all - Pete reminded me of a bad habit that I get into when I go to Dayton. While in the flea market I came across a super good deal on Chuck's recommended water soluble flux solder that he uses for his kits - \$5 a spool - WOW. That evening I mentioned it to Pete who traced down the outdoor booth and reported back to me the following night at the hospitality suite. He politely mentioned to me that the size of the solder was too large for HIS pc board work. Sure enough when I got back to the room that night I found out that I bought a spool of solder that was probably the right size for making VHF/UHF copper pipe cavity filters - sigh... ALWAYS look at what you're buying even if you are excited - VO1DRB's Rule #1 for ham flea market shopping.

At 09:56 6/4/96 -0400, you wrote:

>Hello everyone,

>

>Does anyone have info on a very small iambic keyer paddle that I believe
>is made in England? I saw it a year or two ago at Dayton. It is a heavy
>(brass?), high quality key yet is extremely small. I'm interested in
>buying such a key.

>

>Pete

>

>--

>Member of ARRL, ARCI, MI-QRP, G-QRP, NE-QRP, CQC

>Pete Meier WK8S QRP-L#212 Email: pmeier@tir.com

>Waterford, Michigan USA

>

>

Bob Gobrick - VO1DRB/WA6ERB/VE2DRB - Newfoundland, Canada
QRPer Galore - ARCI, GQRP, NORCAL, NEQRP, COQRP, MIQRP, NWQRP
Internet: rgobrick@nfld.com
bgobrick@nlnet.nf.ca
Compuserve: 70466.1405@compuserve.com

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996

From: N9DD@aol.com

Subject: [9396] Re: NW8020 and NorCal Counter (long)

Message-ID: <960604222404_210680538@emout10.mail.aol.com>

In a message dated 96-06-03 01:56:14 EDT, you write:

<< Hi Tom, glad to see you have the counter problem solved. You have my interest perked too ! I remember the W6QIF article too, but it is lost with the QRPp's in storage someplace. Could you tell me more about the counter ? I get an occasional request for info on a counter that will work with the NW8020.

--Is it noisy in the receiver ?

Yes, a little, but I hope to be able to get rid of most of the noise by shielding the counter PCB and/or using shielded cables to the display, power, etc. I'm using a TenTec box which is larger than the Radio Shack box you suggested. I have alot of room to add extras. Unless I really listen for it, I only notice the noise when I use the optional AF filter.

--is it easy to do ?

I think so. The counter itself was an easy one-night project. The PCB wasn't the best quality, but I got it working after replacing 1 bad IC. The connections are to the VFO test point, +12V and ground.

--How much panel space ?

The display provided by NorCal (I got mine direct from Doug at the '95 Dayton Hamfest) measures 1 5/8 x 3/8 inches. Other displays will work. I don't know about availability.

--Is it power hungry ?

According to the original documentation, the counter uses about 200 ma. - a bit much for a portable rig. It might be a good idea to provide a switch to turn it on and off - that would help with the noise problem too.

--Do you have it documented ?

No. There isn't a lot to add to the details in June '94 QRPp other than that I used no preset diodes and had to ground pin 10 on the counter IC to get it to count the right direction.

--Was there documention with the counter chip ?

A friend ordered the parts from Mouser. They didn't provide any documentation with the chip. Mouser did not have the chip listed in their catalog, but it was in their computer and available.

--How much was the chip ?

About \$7 as I recall, but that was a while back.

Should just direct any future requests to you ?

I'd be happy to answer any questions if I can, but I'm not an engineer. I've built quite a few kits though. This is the first time I used a digital display in any of my project.

Actually, I would like to play with it myself, was there a board available ?

Yes - \$5 from FAR.

I hope my answers are helpful. I've avoided the transmitter instability problems I mentioned earlier by following your suggestion and starting with the xmit drive pot full on and adjusting down. I've made several contacts with the rig and everyone says it sounds fine. I'm really proud of this rig (as you should be!). I still have some things I want to tinker with, but it is working fine. I think I'll add an audio-derived S-meter circuit (I have a W1FB one already built) and might try adding an RF gain pot to control the voltage on pin 5 of the MC1450 (or maybe try a full-blown AGC circuit).

You'll love the meter I'm using for the S-Meter. It was surplus from a Heath fume detector. The meter scale reads Safe, Dangerous, and Explosive - perfect for those thundering QRP signals I'll be receiving!

73 and thanks,

Tom N9DD QRP-L #32
South Bend, IN

Member of: QRP-ARCI, CQC, G-QRP, MI-QRP, NorCal

N9DD TMPS 1996 Qs=020 States=13 Confirmed=02 DX=02
CA CO IN MA MD MN NH NJ NM NY OK PA TX Tom N9DD

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: James Bell <jim.bell@canada.cdev.com>
Subject: [9348] Re: QRP & RTTY
Message-ID: <199606041233.IAA118871@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

There are some excellent software packages that can be used with a QRP rig and a laptop computer to decode CW,RTTY , AMTOR and even PACTOR.

There is no need for an expensive and bulky TNC as the software does the work inside the computer.

Currently I am having fun with a software program called BMK MULTY from SCHENDLER SYSTEMS. There is also a good package available from the software repository, which can be downloaded on your computer, called HAMCOM 3.0 by DL5YEC. This package interfaces to the computer using a single TL074 chip which in turn draws its power from the computer. This software package does not decode PACTOR (yet).It costs \$20 if you like it.

When I used the CW decoder, I would hear the sound and then see the printout on the screen . After a while my ability to

receive CW without the aid of a computer jumped away up. I recommend this method for anyone who wishes to increase his or her code speed.

When running RTTY the drive level of the rig has to be cut to 50% or less as it is the same as running 100%key down. The final transistor will tend to burn up.

72 to all

JIM BELL VE3DDY MANOTICK ONT. CANADA 76102.2765@compuserve.com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: N5EM@aol.com
Subject: [9384] Re: QRP vs QRO - 1000 mi/watt award
Message-ID: <960604181455_318509171@emout19.mail.aol.com>

In a message dated 96-06-04 17:00:39 EDT, you write:

> So when you find a
>particularly helpful QRO op that goes the extra mile (so to speak) and
>helps you get that new state/country on 100 microwatts (?), submit his/her
>name and pay for the award for them as well. What could be nicer?
>
>

Now there is a GREAT idea. Thanks, Jim.

Ed, N5EM

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: "Jerry L. Bartachek" <jbartac@max.state.ia.us>
Subject: [9353] Re: QRP/RTTY/ON A QRP+
Message-ID: <31B45996.111E@max.state.ia.us>

I have done a lot of QRP RTTY and some QRP Amtor using an Icom 740 and a Ten Tec Paragon. I have used FSK and also AFSK at times. At 4 or 5 watts, QRP RTTY is a lot of fun.

BUT - I have never tried RTTY on my QRP +. Please be aware that the QRP + automatically selects upper sideband on all bands 30 meters and above. The audio sigs that you feed into the mic jack or add-on jack must be in the proper polarity [AFSK must be on the LSB mode or

you'll incur the
wrath of RTTY cops who are worse than excess bandwidth cops on the list ;-)].

If you use a commercial TNC or MCP, as they are called, you can reverse the polarity of the audio
sigs you are sending to the rig. Be sure to reverse the sigs you receive also, or the computer
screen will print garbage. Here's a mnemonic memory aid for RTTY: LSMFT = Low Space Means Fine
Rtty. (OT's can tell you this used to mean Lucky Strike Means Fine Tobacco in cigarette ads)

So in summary, you should keep the audio mark and space tones in your modem in the NORMAL sense
on 160, 80, and 40 meters, but you'll need to REVERSE the sense of the mark and space tones for
all the other bands. Give it a try and post to the list how you made out.

72,
Jerry KD0CA

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: GREGOIRE@ENDOR.COM (ERNEST GREGOIRE)
Subject: [9392] Re: QRP/RTTY/ON A QRP+
Message-ID: <199606050056.UAA138264@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

>I must have missed this... whats the scoop on AFSK jacks on the rear panel?
>Whats the difference between that and the mic jack... just the PTT circuit
>that Index suggests using?
>
>Thanks,
>Scott, KB1NW

Hello Scott, gang,

I suppose that with secondary jacks I could listen to the band and
send the audio to the computer at the same time. That was my thought
anyway.

73 de AA1IK

Ernie

de AA1IK N.E.-QRP-C. # 202 (Lead by example, It is better to)
 QRP-L member #95. (pull a string than it is to push it.)

Ernie Gregoire
RR 1 Box 221

Canaan, NH. 03741

New England QRP Club, information
available on request by sending me a
S.A.S.E. or via E-mail.

e-mail : GREGOIRE@ENDOR.COM
packet : AA1IK@WA1WOK.FN43FE.NH.USA

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: Bob Hightower <ki7mn@dancris.com>
Subject: [9356] Re: Spartan Sprint
Message-ID: <199606041415.HAA14781@dancris.com>

At 10:41 PM 6/3/96 -0400, you wrote:

>Gang,

>

>I hope that SOMEWHERE in North America the QRN is low enough to hear a QRP
>signal. It certainly isn't in South Texas.

>

>

Ditto for my QTH in central AZ...lots of sigs, but with qsb and qrn, not a
contact...except for Mike
just up the street. We continue to blow each other out of the water. I did
hear a VE7 station, but
couldn't get back to him. Will keep trying.

73,

Bob KI7MN NorCal 1221 ARCI 8918 Qrp-1 271 CQC 274 ARRL (Not in any
order of importance!)

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: "Robert J. Gobrick" <rgobrick@nfld.com>
Subject: [9390] Re: Spartan Sprint
Message-ID: <2.2.32.19960603220454.00a0cd28@public.compusult.nf.ca>

Ed,

And here all along I thought it was MY antenna/rig problem. Was back in
Montreal this past weekend as VE2DRB and damn if I didn't have QRN on 40,
30, 20, 15 etc. I have a noise blanker on my bigger rig but even though it

chopped out the QRN I'd get the typical overload chatter that happens when strong signals come on while the noise blanker is activated.

Anyway I kept switching between my 80 meter horizontal loop fed with ladder line and my small tribander yagi and all I got was noise, noise and more noise.

So now that you experienced the same thing down in Texas I know now that it is not my set-up but something in the atmosphere - hi. Sure am glad you checked in on this. I bet you can find this "atmospheric noise" all across North America.

73/72 Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB

PS: Say I think Bob WA7FCU and Rick VE6GK have those fancy QRN squasher black boxes - do those things work??

At 22:41 6/3/96 -0400, you wrote:

>Gang,

>

>I hope that SOMEWHERE in North America the QRN is low enough to hear a QRP
>signal. It certainly isn't in South Texas.

>

>See you in JULY.

>

>Ed,N5EM

>

>

>

>

```
-----
| Bob Gobrick - V01DRB/WA6ERB/VE2DRB - Newfoundland, Canada |
| QRPer Galore - ARCI, GQRP, NORCAL, NEQRP, COQRP, MIQRP, NWQRP |
| Internet:      rgobrick@nfld.com |
|                bgobrick@nlnet.nf.ca |
| Compuserve:   70466.1405@compuserve.com |
|-----
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From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996

From: Ronald Hands <Ronald.Hands@freenet.hamilton.on.ca>

Subject: [9394] Re: Spartan Sprint

Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.960604205110.1196A-100000@james.freenet.hamilton.on.ca>

N5EM@aol.com wrote:

I hope that SOMEWHERE in North America the QRN is low enough to hear a QRP signal. It certainly isn't in South Texas.

I only *heard* (and worked) one Sprint station on 40: WY1W. He was running 4 watts and was a comfortable 589.

Let's see now: IC-735, PS-55, AT-150, Bencher paddle, MFJ DSP -- I should be in line for "most weight per watt" single contact single band single op division.

-- Ron VE3SP

ronald.hands@freenet.hamilton.on.ca

rhands@inforamp.net

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996

From: Allen Jones <ajones@adsnet.com>

Subject: [9355] Re: SW-30 HELP!!

Message-ID: <199606041400.JAA26902@alice.adsnet.com>

At 02:13 AM 6/3/96 +0100, you wrote:

>>

>>The problem is that, on transmit, as I turn the RF drive pot (R2) up,
>>everything seems to break into oscillation. Looking at the output on my
>>WM-1, this seems to happen with about 1 watt of output. The first sign of
>>trouble is that the audio amplifier starts motorboating (I think). If I
>>look at the output of the rig by connecting my scope across the dummy load,
>>it looks ok until the oscillation starts ... then a sort of "kink" appears
>>in the waveform. The output of the driver (Q5) doesn't look that good to
>>begin with (high frequency stuff superimposed on top of the good stuff) and
>>gets really ugly when the thing starts oscillating. The output of Q4 shows
>>similar nasty things.

>>

This is a common problem with the SW-40. I sent a note to Dave Benson detailing the situation I had experienced. As I would turn R2 clockwise beyond 1.25W the keying would get chirpy. If I kept advancing the control the receiver would motorboat when the rig was keyed. Dave advised me that the driver stage was oscillating at this point and advised me to keep R2 adjusted to a point below that where keying problems would start. He was selling a MMIC mod kit that cured the problem and increases the output power. When I talked to him at Dayton he said that he wasn't promoting them as he didn't have any more heat sinks for the mod kits.

72/3 de Allen, K9DZE

=====
Allen Jones K9DZE ajones@adsnet.com
Michigan City, Indiana EN61nq
ARCI G-QRP NorCal QRP-L #112
=====

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Jun 4 23:04:22 1996
From: "Paul R. Valko" <prvalko@Oakland.edu>
Subject: [9367] Re: TUNIN' WID A FANCY RIG
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.91.960604134053.1151A-100000@vela.acs.oakland.edu>

On Tue, 4 Jun 1996, David Kreinberg wrote:

> Now, on to the technical stuff: Having never owned
> a rig with digital tuning, I feel kind of intimidated
> with how one accurately tunes a CW station.

Dave, a frequency display doesn't mean squat. What is important is that your TX offset is somewhere around 700hz and you tune the signal for a comfortable (700Hz or so) sound. I think you may be concerned over a non issue, even if you are a couple hundred hertz either way of the station you are tuning in on it won't mean much. Nobody in there right mind calls CQ with a DSP unit set to 25Hz. The passband you are probably shooting for is somewhere between 2400 and 500 hertz.

My log is filled with hundreds of contacts that simply read "40 meters" because I just glance at the dial to make sure I'm in band and never really note the exact frequency. Rank has it's privileges... being an extra means never having to worry about sub-bands :-)

My Corsair has a "zero beat" tone that I've really used maybe once or twice in ten years.

> The rig also has a MOX key, however the manual simply
> states that this key "manually activates the transmitter"
> and never mentions a practical use for it. Does this
> key the rig, but not put out any RF (for tuning purposes)??

This is a goofy thing Yasue does, my FT-900at has it too. The best I can figure out it is a "manual VOX." It will transmit whatever power and whatever mode you have the rig set to. Obviously, you need to be in a mode OTHER than SSB to see any output.

Hope this helps. Your post came across sounding anxious and you need to

take a nice clearing breath and relax, it's a hobby :-) Have FUN!!!

73 =paul= wb8zjl